

## UNITED STATE. JEPARTMENT OF COMMER. Patent and Trademark Office

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FIRST NAMED APPLICANT ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. APPLICATION NUMBER FILING DATE 21285.0103 METCALI 11/20/96 08/749,766 26M1/0402 OH, M JAMES G GATTO ART UNIT BAKER & BOTTS THE WARNER 2605 1299 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE NW WASHINGTON DC 20004-2400 DATE MAILED: 04/02/97 This is a communication from the examiner in charge of your application. COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS **OFFICE ACTION SUMMARY** Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_ This action is FINAL. Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 D.C. 11; 453 O.G. 213. thre + A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire\_\_\_\_ month(s), or thirty days. whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). **Disposition of Claims** \_\_\_\_\_\_ is/are pending in the application. Claim(s) \_ is/are withdrawn from consideration. Of the above, claim(s) \_\_\_\_ Claim(s) \_\_ \_ is/are allowed. 1 7055 Claim(s) \_\_\_ \_\_ is/are rejected. Claim(s) \_\_ is/are objected to. Claims \_ are subject to restriction or election requirement. **Application Papers** ☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948. ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to by the Examiner. The proposed drawing correction, filed on \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ is 🗌 approved 🗋 disapproved. The specification is objected to by the Examiner. The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d). ☐ All ☐ Some\* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been received. received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) \_ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). \*Certified copies not received: \_ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e). Attachment(s) Notice of Reference Cited, PTO-892 Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). Interview Summary, PTO-413 Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES --

Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

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1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

- (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.
- 2. Claims 1 to 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Short.

Short discloses a sound system which is comprised of means for separately receiving sound produced by the plurality of sound sources and means for converting the separately received sound to a plurality of separate audio signals without mixing the audio signals (L and R and R and L were inherently produced by a plurality of sound source); means for separately storing the plurality of separate audio signals without mixing the audio signals (BUFFERS); means for separately retrieving the stored audio signals (output of BUFFERS); an amplification network comprising a plurality of amplifiers means with separate amplifier means for separately amplifying each of the separate audio signals (20 and 24); a loudspeaker network comprising a plurality of loudspeaker means, with separate loudspeaker means for reproducing the separately amplified audio signals (1 and 2); a dynamic controller for dynamically controlling the loudspeaker network and the amplification network (14 and 22); the loudspeaker means comprises a one or more loudspeakers which are customized for reproduction of the type of sounds reproduced by each loudspeaker (1 and 2); the plurality of sound source comprises a group of individual sound source (inherent that group of sound sources are group of individual

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sound source); and the amplification means and loudspeaker means is separately controllable (inherent that the amplifiers and the loudspeakers are separately controllable).

- 3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Boer, Sadaie, and Rapoport discloses a system for reproducing sounds.
- 4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Minsun Oh whose telephone number is (703) 308-6741.

Minsun Oh Patent Examiner Group 2605